

Boston, March 22, 1842.

Dear George:

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As Sarah and Helen have written letters to dear Anne, (whose health we are glad to hear is improving,) I presume they have written somewhat minutely, in regard to all domestic affairs; and I will not, therefore, travel over the same ground. As for young Thumber, I have failed to see him personally, but left your letter, to-day, in the hands of his wife. I shall probably either see or hear from him to-morrow. His wife says she is much attached to Boston; and though willing to go to Northampton, if they can thus better their condition, yet I think it rather doubtful about their going, especially if his prospects here shall brighten as the spring opens. But you shall be informed of his decision, as soon as it is made up.

If all be well, (and, so mutable are all things here below, we can promise nothing as to the future without prefixing an if,) I shall go to Albany about the 21st of April, in company with C. L. Remond, to attend an anti-slavery convention which our friends intend to get up in that city, with special reference to the Irish Address. We shall carry that Address along with us. There is a pretty large Irish population in Albany, and an Irish Repeal Association; but the Argus has had the effrontery and folly to deny the authenticity of the Address, and, of course, a meeting called with especial reference to it will be pretty sure to be well attended, and to create a wholesome excitement. In going or returning, I shall endeavor to visit Northampton, (most probably on returning.)



and, if practicable, make Remond accompany me. I intend, if I can, to add Wendell Phillips to our company. So, you may make your arrangements, at your leisure, for at least one "incendiary" meeting in your place.

Do not forget to suggest to my friend Child, the importance of preparing, without delay, a stirring Address to the friends of the American Anti-Slavery Society, urging them to take prompt and effectual measures to insure a full attendance at the approaching anniversary, from all parts of the free States; and setting forth, in strong terms, the necessity of a large representation, on the occasion. For my own part, I avow myself to be both an Irish Repealer and an American Repealer. I go for the repeal of the union between England and Ireland, and for the repeal of the union between the North and the South. We must dissolve all connexion with those murderers of fathers, and murderers of mothers, and murderers of liberty, and traffickers in human flesh, and blasphemers against the Almighty, at the South. What have we in common with them? What have we gained, what have we not lost, by our alliance with them? Are not their principles, their pursuits, their policies, their interests, their designs, their feelings, utterly diverse from ours? Why, then, be subject to their dominion? Why not have the Union dissolved in form, as it is in fact — especially, if the form gives ample protection to the slave system, by securing for it all the physical force of the North? It is not treason against the cause of liberty to cry, "Down with every slaveholding Union!" Therefore, I raise that cry! And, O, that I had a voice louder than a thousand thunders, that it might shake the land, and



and electrify the dead — the dead in sin, I mean — those slain by the hand of slavery.

How marvellously Providence works! The Irish Address, I trust, is to be the means of breaking up a stupendous conspiracy, which I believe is going on between the leading Irish demagogues, the leading pseudo democrats, and the southern slaveholders. Mark three things. First — The Irish population among us is nearly all "democratic." Second — The democratic party is openly and avowedly the defender and upholder of the "peculiar institution" of slavery. Third — The cry in favor of Irish Repeal is now raised extensively throughout the South, and sustained by the leading democratic journals, — and why? To secure the aid of the Irish voters on the side of slavery, and to bring their united strength to bear against the anti-slavery enterprise! Also, if possible, by sending over donations to Ireland, to stop O'Connell's mouth on the subject of slavery, and to prevent any more "interference," on that point, from that side of the Atlantic! Hence, I observe, at the Repeal meetings, in various parts of the country, resolutions and declarations which amount to sacred pledges, that these "repealers" will stand by southern institutions, at all hazards! Now, by the Address, which will cause every toad to start up into a devil as soon as he is touched, we shall be able to probe this matter to the bottom. If O'Connell and our friends in Ireland remain true to us, and renew their spirited attacks upon American slavery, and cry out against this unholy and frightful league between southern slave-drivers and his countrymen in America, then it will put down at the South this pretended sympathy for Ireland, and be the means of advancing our movement still more rapidly.



In this week's *Liberator*, I shall publish copious extracts from O'Connell's speeches, for the last ten years, against American slavery. They will scathe like lightning, and smite like thunderbolts. No man, in the wide world, has spoken so strongly against the soul-drivers of this land as O'Connell.

Is it not heart-cheering to know that the British government will not give up the slaves of the breed?

George W. Benson,

Northampton.

(Care of Mr. Silloway.)

I trust all your hopes will be realized, in regard to your undertaking. Look well to the present, and the future will take care of itself.

For a few days past, I have been somewhat feverish, and do not feel in a very <sup>good</sup> condition now.

Remember me with a brother's affection to Anne and Catherine, and give my friendly remembrances to Mr. Adam, S. L. Child, &c.

Yours, faithfully,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.